

Statement of Status and Support for Claims

A. Status of Claims

Claims 1-107 are pending. Claims 1-5 were part of the original issue of the Patent.
Claims 6-107 are new.

B. Support for New Claims

New Independent Claims: Claims 6, 34, 48, 58, 72, 75, 83, and 98

Claim 6

New claim 6 states:

An apparatus for sewing hair, comprising:
a first needle member;
a second needle member;
a resilient band configured to be coupled to the first needle member and the second needle member;
a fastener means located on the first needle member, wherein the fastener means is configured to couple the resilient band to the first needle member at a fixed location on the first needle member, and wherein the fastener means is further configured to allow the resilient band to be uncoupled from the first needle member; and
wherein the resilient band can be sewn into the hair, wherein the first needle member and the second needle member can be placed into the hair to secure the hair, and wherein the first needle member, the second needle member, and the resilient band can be removed from the hair by uncoupling the resilient band from the first needle member.

Support for new claim 6 can be found at least in column 2, lines 56-62, and column 3, lines 12-20, which state:

The first needle generally designated by reference numeral 1, comprises a first needle end 10 and a second needle end 11. The second needle generally designated by reference numeral 2 comprises a first needle end 10 and a second needle end 11. The resilient band generally designated by reference numeral 12, comprises a first band end 22 and a second band portion 23. ...The present invention being thus described, it is obvious that the same may be varied in many

ways. For instance FIG. 2 shows that needle 7 can be attached to the band 8 by a latch 15 instead of by a tiny attached band 23 of FIG. 1. Further the latch of needle 7 of FIG. 2 could be on both needles 8 and 9 of FIG. 3 and both latches 15' could be any type of latch that will releasably hold the band to the needle/needles without the latch getting in the way of the sewing process; a few examples of this are shown in FIGS. 3 through 5.

Claim 34

Claim 34 states:

An apparatus for sewing hair, comprising:
a first needle member;
a resilient band permanently attached to the first needle member;
a second needle member, wherein the second needle member is configured to be coupled and uncoupled from the resilient band; and
wherein the resilient band can be sewn into the hair, wherein the first needle member and the second needle member can be placed into the hair to secure the hair, and wherein the first needle member, the second needle member, and the resilient band can be removed from the hair by uncoupling the resilient band from the second needle member.

Support for new claim 34 can be found at least in the portions of the specification set forth above for claim 1, and in column 3, lines 36-41, which state:

In another embodiment FIG. 6 two needles 30 and 31 are permanently attached to each end of a band 32. In use of this embodiment the first needle 30 is put into upswept hair and left in place. The band 32 is wrapped around and around the first needle 30, and the second needle 31 is placed into the hair to secure.

Claim 48

Claim 48 states:

An apparatus for sewing hair, comprising:
a resilient band configured to be coupled to and uncoupled from a first needle member and a second needle member;
the first needle member having an eye with a notch that allows the resilient band to be placed into the eye to couple the resilient band to the first needle member and allows the resilient band to be removed from the eye to uncouple the resilient band from the first needle member;
the second needle member having an eye with a notch that allows the resilient band to be placed into the eye to couple the resilient band to the second

needle member and allows the resilient band to be removed from the eye to uncouple the resilient band from the second needle member; and

wherein the resilient band can be sewn into the hair, wherein the first needle member and the second needle member can be placed into the hair to secure the hair, and wherein the first needle member, the second needle member, and the resilient band can be removed from the hair by uncoupling the resilient band from the first needle member or the second needle member.

Support for new claim 48 can be found at least in the portions of the specification set forth above for claim 1, and in column 3, lines 32-36, which state:

In FIG. 5 each needle 5 and eye 40 and each eye has a notch 41 on its side that goes all the way through the needle 5 edge into the eyes 40 opening; to secure the looped band 26 the user places each end 27 and 28 of the looped band 26 into the notch 41.

Claim 58

Claim 58 states:

An apparatus for sewing hair, comprising:

a single needle member;

a resilient band configured to be coupled to the single needle member;

a fastener means located on the single needle member, wherein the fastener means is configured to allow the resilient band to be coupled and uncoupled from the single needle member; and

wherein the resilient band can be sewn into the hair, wherein the single needle member can be placed into the hair to secure the hair, and wherein the single needle member and the resilient band can be removed from the hair by uncoupling the resilient band from the single needle member.

Support for new claim 58 can be found at least in column 3, line 52, which states: "FIG. 10 is a single needle 35 with a latch 36 and band 50."

Claim 72

Claim 72 states:

A method of securing a section of hair, comprising:

placing a first needle member behind a section of hair with a first end of the first needle member sticking out of one side of the hair section and a second end of the first needle member sticking out of the other side of the hair section;

wrapping an elastic band around the first needle member by placing the elastic band around the first end of the first needle member and then around the second end of the first needle member more than once, wherein the elastic band is permanently attached to an end of the first needle member and an end of a second needle member; and
placing the second needle member into the hair to secure the section of hair.

Support for new claim 72 can be found at least in the portions of the specification set forth above for claim 34.

Claim 75

Claim 75 states:

A method of securing a section of hair, comprising:
placing a first needle member behind a section of hair with a first end of the first needle member sticking out of one side of the hair section and a second end of the first needle member sticking out of the other side of the hair section;
wrapping an elastic band around the first needle member by placing the elastic band around the first end of the first needle member and then around the second end of the first needle member more than once, wherein the elastic band is permanently attached to an end of the first needle member; and
placing a second needle member into the hair to secure the section of hair, wherein the second needle member is coupled to the elastic band.

Support for new claim 75 can be found at least in the portions of the specification set forth above for claim 34.

Claim 83

Claim 83 states:

A method of securing a section of hair, comprising:
coupling an elastic band to a first needle member at a fixed location on the first needle member using a fastener means located on the first needle member;
placing the first needle member behind a section of hair with a first end of the first needle member sticking out of one side of the hair section and a second end of the first needle member sticking out of the other side of the hair section;

wrapping the elastic band around the first needle member by placing the elastic band around the first end of the first needle member and then around the second end of the first needle member more than once; and
placing a second needle member into the hair to secure the section of hair, wherein the second needle member is coupled to the elastic band.

Support for new claim 83 can be found at least in the portions of the specification set forth above for claim 1.

Claim 98

Claim 98 states:

A method of securing a section of hair, comprising:
coupling an elastic band to a first needle member by placing the elastic band through a notch and into an eye located on the first needle member;
placing the first needle member behind a section of hair with a first end of the first needle member sticking out of one side of the hair section and a second end of the first needle member sticking out of the other side of the hair section;
wrapping the elastic band around the first needle member by placing the elastic band around the first end of the first needle member and then around the second end of the first needle member more than once; and
placing a second needle member into the hair to secure the section of hair, wherein the second needle member is coupled to the elastic band.

Support for new claim 98 can be found at least in the portions of the specification set forth above for claim 48.

New Dependent Claims: Claims 7-33, 35-47, 49-57, 59-71, 73-74, 76-82, 84-97 and 99-107

Claims 7, 18, 37, 60, and 85

New claim 7 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the fastener means comprises a hinged latch.

New claim 18 states:

The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the second fastener means comprises a hinged latch.

New claim 37 states:

The apparatus of claim 36, wherein the fastener means comprises a hinged latch.

New claim 60 states:

The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the fastener means comprises a hinged latch.

New claim 85 states:

The method of claim 83, wherein the fastener means comprises a hinged latch, and wherein coupling the elastic band to the first needle member comprises securing the elastic band in the hinged latch.

Support for new claims 7, 18, 37, 60, and 85 can be found at least in column 3, lines 13-15, which state:

For instance FIG. 2 shows that needle 7 can be attached to the band 8 by a latch 15 instead of by a tiny attached band 23 of FIG. 1.

Claims 8, 19, 61, 86, and 101

New claim 8 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the fastener means comprises an eye on the first needle member, and wherein the eye comprises a notch that allows the resilient band to be placed into and removed from the eye.

New claim 19 states:

The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the second fastener means comprises an eye on the second needle member, and wherein the eye comprises a notch that allows the resilient band to be placed into and removed from the eye.

New claim 61 states:

The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the fastener means comprises an eye on the needle member, and wherein the eye comprises a notch that allows the resilient band to be placed into the eye and removed from the eye.

New claim 86 states:

The method of claim 83, wherein the fastener means comprises an eye with a notch on the first needle member, and wherein coupling the elastic band to the first needle member comprises placing the elastic band through the notch and securing the elastic band in the eye.

New claim 101 states:

The method of claim 98, further comprising coupling the elastic band to the second needle member by placing the elastic band through a notch and into an eye located on the second needle member.

Support for new claims 8, 19, 61, 86, and 101 can be found at least in column 3, lines 32-36, which state:

In FIG. 5 each needle 5 and eye 40 and each eye has a notch 41 on its side that goes all the way through the needle 5 edge into the eyes 40 opening; to secure the looped band 26 the user places each end 27 and 28 of the looped band 26 into the notch 41.

Claims 9-11, 20-22, 62-64, and 87-89

New claim 9 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the fastener means comprises a notch on the first needle member.

New claim 10 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the fastener means comprises a dimple on the first needle member.

New claim 11 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the fastener means comprises a ridge on the first needle member.

New claim 20 states:

The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the second fastener means comprises a notch on the second needle member.

New claim 21 states:

The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the second fastener means comprises a dimple on the second needle member.

New claim 22 states:

The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the second fastener means comprises a ridge on the second needle member.

New claim 62 states:

The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the fastener means comprises a notch on the needle member.

New claim 63 states:

The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the fastener means comprises a dimple on the needle member.

New claim 64 states:

The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the fastener means comprises a ridge on the needle member.

New claim 87 states:

The method of claim 83, wherein the fastener means comprises a notch on the first needle member, and wherein coupling the elastic band to the first needle member comprises securing the elastic band in the notch.

New claim 88 states:

The method of claim 83, wherein the fastener means comprises a dimple on the first needle member, and wherein coupling the elastic band to the first needle member comprises securing the elastic band in the dimple.

New claim 89 states:

The method of claim 83, wherein the fastener means comprises a ridge on the first needle member, and wherein coupling the elastic band to the first needle member comprises securing the elastic band over the ridge.

Support for new claims 9-11, 20-22, 62-64, and 87-89 can be found at least in column 3, lines 43-51, which state:

Each needles 33 and 34 has either a raised ridge 42 of FIG. 7, a concave notch 43 of FIG. 8, or a dimple 44 of FIG. 9 toward one end 45 and 46 of the needles 33 and 34. A band 37 has two tiny loops 38 and 39 attached to each end. The band is secured to the needles 33 and 34 by placing an end 47 and 48 of each needle 33 and 34 into the tiny loops 38 and 39 and sliding tip. The dimples 44, ridges 42, or concave notches 43 are there to keep bands 38 and 39 from sliding off the needles 33 and 34 during the sewing process.

Claims 12-13, 23-24, 65-66, and 90

New claim 12 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the fastener means comprises a spring latch.

New claim 13 states:

The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the spring latch comprises a first hole on the first needle member, wherein the spring latch further comprises a button member having a second hole and coupled to the first needle member through a spring, and wherein the resilient band is coupled to the first needle member by aligning the first hole and the second hole by depressing the button member against the spring

and placing the resilient band through the first and second holes, then releasing the button member so that the first and second holes are unaligned and the resilient band is secured between the first needle member and the button member.

New claim 23 states:

The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the second fastener means comprises a spring latch.

New claim 24 states:

The apparatus of claim 23, wherein the spring latch comprises a first hole on the second needle member, wherein the spring latch further comprises a button member having a second hole and coupled to the second needle member through a spring, and wherein the resilient band is coupled to the second needle member by aligning the first hole and the second hole by depressing the button member against the spring and placing the resilient band through the first and second holes, then releasing the button member so that the first and second holes are unaligned and the resilient band is secured between the second needle member and the button member.

New claim 65 states:

The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the fastener means comprises a spring latch.

New claim 66 states:

The apparatus of claim 65, wherein the spring latch comprises a first hole on the single needle member, wherein the spring latch further comprises a button member having a second hole and coupled to the single needle member through a spring, and wherein the resilient band is coupled to the single needle member by aligning the first hole and the second hole by depressing the button member against the spring and placing the resilient band through the first and second holes, then releasing the button member so that the first and second holes are unaligned and the resilient band is secured between the single needle member and the button member.

New claim 90 states:

The method of claim 83, wherein the fastener means comprises a spring latch on the first needle member, wherein the spring latch comprises a first hole on the first needle member and a button member having a second hole, and wherein coupling the elastic band to the first needle member comprises:

aligning the first hole and the second hole by depressing the button member;

placing the elastic band through the aligned holes; and

releasing the button member so that the first and second holes are unaligned and the elastic band is secured between the first needle member and the button member.

Support for new claims 12-13, 23-24, 65-66, and 90 can be found at least in column 3, lines 22-32, which state:

FIG. 4 shows a spring latch that works like a cord lock; the top of the needles 4 have an opening 16 where a spring 17 is placed into hole 16 and a separate piece 18 that has a hole 19 through it that is placed in opening 16; the separate piece 18 snaps into the needle 4 and becomes a button 24 that when pressed aligns its hole 19 with hole 20 on the needle 4. The band ends are attached by pressing the button 24, placing each end 24 and 25 of the band 6 into the aligned holes 19 and 20 and releasing the button 24 to unalign the holes 19 and 20 therefore securing the band ends to the needles.

Claims 14, 16, 25, 39, 91, and 100

New claim 14 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the fastener means comprises a permanent attachment between the resilient band and the first needle member.

New claim 16 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the resilient band is permanently attached to the second needle member.

New claim 25 states:

The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the second fastener means comprises a permanent attachment between the resilient band and the second needle member.

New claim 39 states:

The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the resilient band is permanently attached to the second needle member.

New claim 91 states:

The method of claim 83, wherein the second needle member is permanently attached to the elastic band.

New claim 100 states:

The method of claim 98, wherein the second needle member is permanently attached to the elastic band.

Support for new claims 14, 16, 25, 39, 91 and 100 can be found at least in column 3, lines 3-4, and column 3, lines 36-41, which state:

The other end of the band 22 is unattachably secured to needle 2 by any means. ... In another embodiment FIG. 6 two needles 30 and 31 are permanently attached to each end of a band 32. In use of this embodiment the first needle 30 is put into upswept hair and left in place. The band 32 is wrapped around and around the first needle 30, and the second needle 31 is placed into the hair to secure.

Claims 15, 38, 49, and 67

New claim 15 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the resilient band comprises a looped resilient band.

New claim 38 states:

The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the resilient band comprises a looped resilient band.

New claim 49 states:

The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the resilient band comprises a looped resilient band.

New claim 67 states:

The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the resilient band comprises a looped resilient band.

Support for new claims 15, 38, 49, and 67 can be found at least in column 2, lines 62-65, which state:

In this embodiment, the needle portions 1 are made of plastic or wood, the band portion 12 is made of some type of resilient thread such as elastic.

Claim 17

New claim 17 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, further comprising a second fastener means located on the second needle member, wherein the second fastener means is configured to couple the resilient band to the second needle member at a fixed location on the second needle member, and wherein the second fastener means is further configured to allow the resilient band to be uncoupled from the second needle member.

Support for new claim 17 can be found at least in column 3, lines 15-20, which state:

Further the latch of needle 7 of FIG. 2 could be on both needles 8 and 9 of FIG. 3 and both latches 15' could be any type of latch that will releasably hold the band to the needle/needles without the latch getting in the way of the sewing process; a few examples of this are shown in FIGS. 3 through 5.

Claims 26-29, 40-43, 50-53, 68-69, 81-82, 96-97, and 106-107

New claim 26 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the first needle member comprises a tapered end.

New claim 27 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the first needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, wherein the fixed location on the first needle member is closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

New claim 28 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the second needle member comprises a tapered end.

New claim 29 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the second needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, wherein the resilient band is configured to be coupled to the second needle member closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

New claim 40 states:

The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the first needle member comprises a tapered end.

New claim 41 states:

The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the first needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, wherein the resilient band is permanently attached to the first needle member closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

New claim 42 states:

The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the second needle member comprises a tapered end.

New claim 43 states:

The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the second needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, wherein the resilient band is configured to be

coupled to the second needle member closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

New claim 50 states:

The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the first needle member comprises a tapered end.

New claim 51 states:

The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the first needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, wherein the eye on the first needle member is located closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

New claim 52 states:

The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the second needle member comprises a tapered end.

New claim 53 states:

The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the second needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, wherein the eye on the second needle member is located closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

New claim 68 states:

The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the single needle member comprises a tapered end.

New claim 69 states:

The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the single needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, wherein the resilient band is configured to be coupled to the single needle member closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

New claim 81 states:

The method of claim 75, wherein the first needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, and wherein the elastic band is attached to the first needle member closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

New claim 82 states:

The method of claim 75, wherein the second needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, the method further comprising coupling the elastic band to the second needle member closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

New claim 96 states:

The method of claim 83, wherein the first needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, and wherein the elastic band is coupled to the first needle member closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

New claim 97 states:

The method of claim 83, wherein the second needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, the method further comprising coupling the elastic band to the second needle member closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

New claim 106 states:

The method of claim 98, wherein the first needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, and wherein the elastic band is coupled to the first needle member closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

New claim 107 states:

The method of claim 98, wherein the second needle member comprises a first tapered end and a second end, the method further comprising coupling the elastic band to the second needle member closer to the second end than to the first tapered end.

Support for new claims 26-29, 40-43, 50-53, 68-69, 81-82, 96-97, and 106-107 can be found at least from column 1, line 66 to column 2, line 6, and from column 2, line 66 to column 3, line 4, which state:

Accordingly a preferred embodiment of the present invention the needles are shaped in a long, narrow triangle or cone shape narrow on one end and wider on the other. The narrow end is rounded or tapered instead of sharp so the needle can be left in the users hair with out harming them. The resilient band is round in diameter and has a first tiny band with an opening the size of the needle's tip attached to a long band for sewing. ...To secure the band 12 to the needle the user places the band portion 23 onto tip 10 of needle 1. The user then slides the band 22 up the needle shaft toward the needle end 11. The band 23 slides up the shaft until it is snug to the needle. The other end of the band 22 is unattachably secured to needle 2 by any means.

Support for new claims 26-29, 40-43, 50-53, 68-69, 81-82, 96-97, and 106-107 can also be found at least in Figures 3-10.

Claims 30-31, 44-45, 54-55, and 70

New claim 30 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the first needle member comprises plastic.

New claim 31 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the second needle member comprises plastic.

New claim 44 states:

The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the first needle member comprises plastic.

New claim 45 states:

The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the second needle member comprises plastic.

New claim 54 states:

The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the first needle member comprises plastic.

New claim 55 states:

The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the second needle member comprises plastic.

New claim 70 states:

The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the single needle member comprises plastic.

Support for new claims 30-31, 44-45, 54-55, and 70 can be found at least in column 2, lines 62-65, which state:

In this embodiment, the needle portions 1 are made of plastic or wood, the band portion 12 is made of some type of resilient thread such as elastic.

Claims 32-33, 46-47, 56-57, and 71

New claim 32 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the first needle member is configured to be moved through the hair.

New claim 33 states:

The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the second needle member is configured to be moved through the hair.

New claim 46 states:

The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the first needle member is configured to be moved through the hair.

New claim 47 states:

The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the second needle member is configured to be moved through the hair.

New claim 56 states:

The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the first needle member is configured to be moved through the hair.

New claim 57 states:

The apparatus of claim 48, wherein the second needle member is configured to be moved through the hair.

New claim 71 states:

The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the single needle member is configured to be moved through the hair.

Support for new claims 32-33, 46-47, 56-57, and 71 can be found at least in column 3, lines 5-10, which state:

In use of the present invention described above the needle 2 is placed in the hair. The needle 1 and band 12 are then sewn through hair. The needle 1 is then placed into the hair to secure. To remove the present invention the user pulls the needle 1 off the band 23 and pulls the band 12 and needle 2 out of the hair.

Claim 35

New claim 35 states:

The apparatus of claim 34, wherein the second needle member comprises a tapered first end, and wherein the second needle member is configured to allow a portion of the resilient band to be slid along a length of the second needle member from the tapered first end towards a second end of the second needle member until the portion of the resilient band fits snugly on the second needle member so that the resilient band is coupled to the second needle member.

Support for new claim 35 can be found at least from column 2, line 66 to column 3, line 4, which state:

To secure the band 12 to the needle the user places the band portion 23 onto tip 10 of needle 1. The user then slides the band 22 up the needle shaft toward the needle end 11. The band 23 slides up the shaft until it is snug to the needle. The other end of the band 22 is unattachably secured to needle 2 by any means.

Claim 36

New claim 36 states:

The apparatus of claim 34, further comprising a fastener means located on the second needle member, wherein the fastener means is configured to couple the resilient band to the second needle member at a fixed location on the second needle member, and wherein the fastener means is further configured to allow the resilient band to be uncoupled from the second needle member.

Support for new claim 36 can be found at least in column 3, lines 11-20, which state:

The present invention being thus described, it is obvious that the same may be varied in many ways. For instance FIG. 2 shows that needle 7 can be attached to the band 8 by a latch 15 instead of by a tiny attached band 23 of FIG. 1. Further the latch of needle 7 of FIG. 2 could be on both needles 8 and 9 of FIG. 3 and both latches 15' could be any type of latch that will releasably hold the band to the needle/needles without the latch getting in the way of the sewing process; a few examples of this are shown in FIGS. 3 through 5.

Claim 59

New claim 59 states:

The apparatus of claim 58, wherein the fastener means is configured to couple the resilient band to the single needle member at a fixed location on the single needle member.

Support for new claim 59 can be found at least in column 3, line 52, which states: "FIG. 10 is a single needle 35 with a latch 36 and band 50"; and in Figure 10.

Claims 73, 76, 84, and 99

New claim 73 states:

The method of claim 72, further comprising selecting a hair fastener means, wherein the hair fastener means comprises the first needle member, the second needle member, and the elastic band.

New claim 76 states:

The method of claim 75, further comprising selecting a hair fastener means, wherein the hair fastener means comprises the first needle member, the second needle member, and the elastic band.

New claim 84 states:

The method of claim 83, further comprising selecting a hair fastener means, wherein the hair fastener means comprises the first needle member, the second needle member, and the elastic band.

New claim 99 states:

The method of claim 98, further comprising selecting a hair fastener means, wherein the hair fastener means comprises the first needle member, the second needle member, and the elastic band.

Support for new claims 73, 76, 84, and 99 can be found at least in column 2, lines 54-60, which state:

Referring to FIG. 1 of the accompanying drawings. There is illustrated a hair sewing fastener embodying the present invention. The first needle generally designated by reference numeral 1, comprises a first needle end 10 and a second needle end 11. The second needle generally designated by reference numeral 2 comprises a first needle end 10 and a second needle end 11.

Claims 74, 77-78, 94-95, and 104-105

New claim 74 states:

The method of claim 72, further comprising removing the first needle member, the second needle member, and the elastic band from the hair to unsecure the section of hair.

New claim 77 states:

The method of claim 75, further comprising removing the first needle member, the second needle member, and the elastic band from the hair to release the section of hair.

New claim 78 states:

The method of claim 75, further comprising uncoupling the second needle member from the elastic band to release the section of hair.

New claim 94 states:

The method of claim 83, further comprising uncoupling the first needle member from the elastic band to release the section of hair.

New claim 95 states:

The method of claim 83, further comprising uncoupling the second needle member from the elastic band to release the section of hair.

New claim 104 states:

The method of claim 98, further comprising uncoupling the first needle member from the elastic band to release the section of hair.

New claim 105 states:

The method of claim 98, further comprising uncoupling the second needle member from the elastic band to release the section of hair.

Support for new claims 74, 77-78, 94-95, and 104-105 can be found at least in column 3, lines 8-10, which state:

To remove the present invention the user pulls the needle 1 off the band 23 and pulls the band 12 and needle 2 out of the hair.

Claims 79-80, 92-93, and 102-103

New claim 79 states:

The method of claim 75, further comprising coupling the elastic band to the second needle member.

New claim 80 states:

The method of claim 75, further comprising coupling the elastic band to the second needle member using a fastener means.

New claim 92 states:

The method of claim 83, further comprising coupling the elastic band to the second needle member.

New claim 93 states:

The method of claim 83, further comprising coupling the elastic band to the second needle member at a fixed location on the second needle member using a second fastener means.

New claim 102 states:

The method of claim 98, further comprising coupling the elastic band to the second needle member.

New claim 103 states:

The method of claim 98, further comprising coupling the elastic band to the second needle member using a fastener means.

Support for new claims 79-80, 92-93, and 102-103 can be found at least in column 3, lines 15-20, which state:

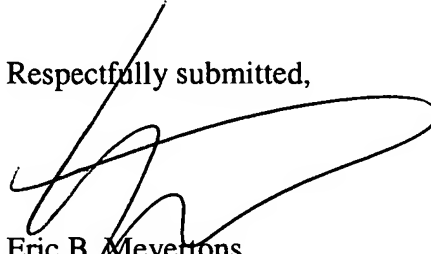
Further the latch of needle 7 of FIG. 2 could be on both needles 8 and 9 of FIG. 3 and both latches 15' could be any type of latch that will releasably hold the band to

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6,484,729

the needle/needles without the latch getting in the way of the sewing process; a few examples of this are shown in FIGS. 3 through 5.

A Fee Authorization is enclosed to cover fees for excess claims. If any additional fees are required with this Amendment, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel Deposit Account No. 50-1505/5883-00100/EBM.

Respectfully submitted,



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